

NEW CLAIMS

16. A message delivery system, comprising:

a) a mobile terminal carried and operated by a first person, including a reader for electro-optically reading machine-readable indicia to generate message data corresponding to a human-readable message to be delivered to a second person remotely located from the first person, a memory for storing identification data to uniquely identify the terminal, and a wireless terminal transceiver for transmitting over a wireless medium a data signal containing the message data and the identification data;

21 b) a server on a network having a destination database accessed by the server, including a wireless server transceiver for receiving the data signal, and for transmitting at a radio frequency over a wireless medium to a destination retrieved from the database a destination signal containing a pager alert signal and a message signal corresponding to the message data; and

c) a mobile pager carried by the second person, including a display and a wireless pager receiver tuned to the radio frequency for receiving the pager alert signal to alert the second person that the message is available, and for receiving the message signal to deliver the message on the display for viewing by the second person.

17. The message delivery system of claim 16, wherein the reader is operative for electro-optically reading a bar code symbol as the indicia, and wherein the message on the display is in a text format.

18. The message delivery system of claim 16, wherein the terminal and the terminal receiver are physically separate units that are connected together to initiate transmission of the data signal.

19. A message delivery method, comprising the steps of:

a) carrying a mobile terminal by a first person, including operating the terminal by electro-optically reading machine-readable indicia to generate message data corresponding to a human-readable message to be delivered to a second person remotely located from the first person, storing identification data to uniquely identify the terminal, and transmitting over a wireless medium a data signal containing the message data and the identification data;

b) providing a server on a network having a destination database accessed by the server, including receiving the data signal, and transmitting at a radio frequency over a wireless medium to a destination retrieved from the database a destination signal containing a pager alert signal and a message signal corresponding to the message data; and

21
cont. c) carrying a mobile pager by the second person, including providing a display on the pager and tuning a wireless pager receiver tuned to the radio frequency for receiving the pager alert signal to alert the second person that the message is available, and for receiving the message signal to deliver the message on the display for viewing by the second person.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the electro-optically reading step is performed on a bar code symbol as the indicia, and formatting the message on the display in a text format.

21. The method of claim 19, and connecting the terminal to a separate terminal receiver to initiate transmission of the data signal.
